

Applicants: Fahey et al.  
Application No.: 09/530,370  
Filed: July 6, 2000  
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In the Claims

Please cancel claims 4, 12-39, 43-45, 46 and 47 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 7, 9, 11, and 48 to read as follows:.

946 7  
D1  
C1  
1. (Twice Amended) A method of detecting a member of the taxa actinomycetes in a sample, comprising:

(a) sequentially incubating with the sample a thiol-selective reagent to produce thiol derivatives, a purified antibody that specifically binds to a mycothiol derivative or a thiol-containing mycothiol component derivative, and a reagent for detecting binding of the antibody to sample components for a time sufficient for said antibody to react with said mycothiol derivative or said thiol-containing mycothiol component derivative; and

(b) detecting binding of said antibody with said mycothiol derivative or a thiol-containing mycothiol component derivative,

wherein the binding indicates presence of a member of the taxa actinomycetes in the sample.

946 7  
D1  
C2  
7. (Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising

(c) quantitating said mycothiol derivative or said thiol-containing mycothiol component derivative in the sample.

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906  
D1 9. (Twice Amended) An isolated antibody which binds specifically to mycothiol or of a thiol-containing mycothiol component.

3 10. (Amended) The isolated antibody of claim 9, wherein the antibody is monoclonal.

11. (Amended) The isolated antibody of claim 9, wherein the antibody is polyclonal.

906 7  
D1 C 4 48. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said detection reagent is directly labeled with a label.